

Proclamation

Hurricane season begins on June 1 and continues through November 30, 2008. One of the most dramatic and damaging weather events that can occur in our islands, hurricanes are capable of bringing destructive winds, tornadoes, torrential rains, floods, ocean water storm surges and high surf conditions. The impact of hurricanes can be felt long after they pass. In addition to destroying homes, businesses and critical infrastructure, they can cause serious injury and, in the worst circumstances, claim lives.

Over the years, hurricanes have cost the State of Hawai'i more money than any other natural disaster. Since 1959, 63 hurricanes, 67 tropical storms and 63 tropical depressions have occurred in the Central Pacific. Though Hawai'i has not suffered a direct hit since Hurricane Iniki in 1992, which produced winds in excess of 130 miles per hour and left a trail of devastation in its wake, we must be prepared for the fact that these storms will strike Hawai'i again in the future.

In recent years, advances in how we predict and track hurricanes have improved preparedness and saved lives. Additionally, Hawai'i's network of forecasters, first responders, government agencies and relief organizations have demonstrated outstanding cooperation in conducting exercises and other activities that will enable quick and effective response efforts in the event of a storm. Nevertheless, residents play a vital role in ensuring their own safety. By taking steps to be ready, including developing a family disaster plan, creating a disaster supply kit and ensuring contents are kept current from year to year, and staying aware of weather situations, people can greatly improve their ability to both survive and recover from the impact of a hurricane.

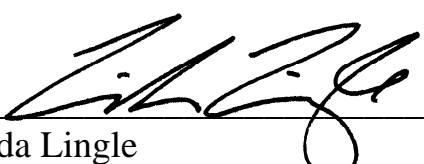
The State of Hawai'i will remain vigilant in its commitment to reduce the dangers of these storms and to conduct an efficient emergency response for when the next hurricane hits. To this end, state and county civil defense agencies, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service, American Red Cross and other partners are continuing to perform workshops, conferences, presentations and other activities to raise awareness of the risks associated with the upcoming hurricane season and to ensure that individuals, families and all agencies are prepared for a serious storm.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **May 18 - 24, 2008** as

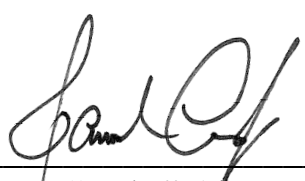
HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK

in Hawai'i, and urge all of our citizens to use this week to make preparations to protect themselves and our communities in the event of a hurricane.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this nineteenth day of May 2008.



Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i



James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i

